

## Message Text

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43

ACTION OC-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CCO-00 OCL-00 SS-15 /043 W

----- 101775

P 241442Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5758

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY

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BEIRUT FOR RCO; ATHENS FOR ATO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UCOM

SUBJECT: COMMUNICATIONS PROBLEMS DAMASCUS

1. EMBASSY AMMAN UNDERSTANDS AS OF 1130 LODAL TODAY DAMASCUS RECEIVE SIDE BACK IN; THEY HAVE HAD SEND SIDE A FEW TIMES FOR VERY SHORT PERIOD OF TIME. HOPEFULLY PRBLEM LOCATED AND WILL BE RECTIFIED SOONEST.

2. TO ASSIST DAMASCUS DURING THIS OUTAGE THEIR TRAFFIC HAS BEEN ROUTED TO AMMAN FOR DELIVERY TO DAMASCUS BY COURIER RUNS. THESE COURIER RUNS NECESSARILY ARE FAR SLOWER THAN TELEGRAPHIC TRANSMISSION, AND ARE ALSO PLACING HEAVY BURDEN ON AMMAN AND DAMASCUS MISSION PERSONNEL. AS A POSSIBLE SOLUTION TO SHORT OUTAGES WHEN AMMAN REQUESTED TO PROTECT FOR DAMASCUS WE HAVE INVESTIGATED UTILIZING AN ON-LINE CIRCUIT BETWEEN C&R AMMAN AND C&R DAMASCUS. AN INFORMAL CHECK WITH JORDANIAN PTT HAS REVEALED THAT A CIRCUIT IS AVAILABLE VIA MICROWAVE AND COAXIAL CABLE. COST OF CIRCUIT IS JD 483 PER MONTH (APPROX \$1,464) PLUS SOME CHARGES ON THE SYRIAN SIDE. NORMAL CIRCUIT IS 50 BAUD BUT JORDANIAN PTT BELIEVES IT COULD BE UPGRADED TO 75 BAUD; THEY WILL INFORM LATER. SHOULD AN AMEMB AMMAN/AMEMB DAMASCUS CIRCUIT BE EFFECTED IT WOULD PLACE AN EXTREMELY HEAVY WORKLOAD ON C&R AND TCU PERSONNEL NECESSITATING AN

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ADDITIONAL TDY POSITION IN BOTH OFFICES. REQUEST RCO BEIRUT

AND ATO ATHENS ADVISE. WITHOUT MINIMIZE OR EVEN WITH MINIMIZE, WE WILL REQUIRE THESE TDY POSITIONS OF OUTAGE CONTINUES FOR MORE THAN A WEEK. IT WILL ALSO REQUIRE THREE TO FIVE DAYS TO SET UP TEMPORARY SYSTEM.

3. SUGGEST DEPARTMENT MAY ALSO WISH INVESTIGATE POSSIBLE PERMANENT SOLUTION TO DAMASCUS/ATS CIRCUIT PROBLEMS BY REROUTING PRESENT CIRCUIT; I.E., CHANGING ROUTING TO AMEMB DAMASCUS/JORDANIAN COMMERCIAL SATELLITE STATION/ RCA NEW YORK/ATS. COST OF CIRCUIT FROM JORDANIAN COMMERCIAL SATELLITE STATION IS APPROX \$7000 PER MONTH. AMMAN HAS UTILIZED COMMERCIAL SATELLITE CIRCUIT INTO ATS FOR SECVISITS WITH GREAT SUCCESS; TRAFFIC QUALITY HAS BEEN EXCELLENT AND OUTAGES AT AMMAN END MINIMAL.  
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## Message Attributes

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